State of California – The Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION



NOTICE OF PREPARATION

The California Department of Parks and Recreation is the Lead Agency under the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act and is considering the preparation of a program level (first-tier) environmental document for the project identified below.

PROJECT TITLE: SANTA SUSANA PASS STATE HISTORIC PARK GENERAL PLAN

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: To meet requirements set forth in Section 5002.2 of the Public Resources Code and Section 4332, Title 14 of the California Administration Code, California Department of Parks and Recreation is preparing a General Plan for the Park. The Plan will delineate a number of resource management zones, as well as develop goals and guidelines for each zone; the document will guide park management, specific project management, and implementation. These goals and guidelines will address recreational, operational, interpretive, and resource management opportunities and constraints; consistent with the classification of *State Historic Park*, as set forth in Section 5019.59 of the Public Resources Code and with Department Resource Management Directives.

Due to the relatively small size of the Park, the Plan will provide specific direction regarding trail location and several facilities. Further, the Plan will provide goals and guidelines for the appropriate types, locations, and designs of facilities that may be proposed in the future; which may include new parking areas, campgrounds, a visitor center, interpretive kiosks, restrooms, and other visitor amenities. The General Plan will establish primary themes for interpretive programs and activities. The General Plan may also indicate direction for cooperative planning and joint-use projects with adjacent parks or transportation agencies.

Current facilities within the Park only include trails and signage; however, the Park is located adjacent to local parks which provide access into the State Park as well as varying visitor support facilities. Resources within the park include significant and varied historic resources, significant archaeological resources, and significant wildlife corridors, riparian habitats, upland habitats, and varied wildlife that may include sensitive species.

POSSIBLE EFFECTS AND MITIGATIONS: The project has potential effects on geologic features, erosion, water quality, transportation, biological resources, fire, and geologic hazards, aesthetics, cultural resources, the natural environment, and recreation. By establishing management zones along with goals and guidelines, the General Plan will endeavor to identify broad level avoidance, mitigation measures, and policies to reduce potential impacts of future projects and activities to a level below significance. However, additional environmental review will be conducted as such projects and any corresponding mitigation measures are proposed.

PUBLIC MEETINGS: The California Department of Parks and Recreation has an active public involvement program for the development of this plan through ongoing workshops. The first workshop focused on General Plan issues and was held on January 10, 2006. The second workshop is scheduled for **Tuesday**, **June 20, 2006** from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM at Chatsworth Park South (Chatsworth Recreation Center-Gym), 22360 Devonshire Street, Chatsworth, CA 91311. The second workshop will present alternatives to the public for comment and suggested changes. The third workshop will present the preferred alternatives for public comment and is not yet scheduled.

PLAN DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: Once written and prepared, the Preliminary General Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be made available for public review and comment in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Preliminary General Plan/EIR will then be refined, and responses to public comments prepared. The Preliminary General Plan/Final EIR will then be presented along with public comments, and responses to comments, to the California State Parks and Recreation Commission Hearing for approval. Subsequent to approval, a General Plan will be prepared to guide the uses, appropriate facilities, and management of the Park. Site specific facility development plans will be subsequently prepared in conformance with the approved General Plan and CEQA, as funding becomes available.

We need to know the views of your agency or organization as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities or organization's interests in connection with the proposed project. The project description, location, and possible environmental effects are included.

Your response must be sent to the address below not later than thirty (30) days after the receipt of this notice and should include a mailing address. We would appreciate the name of a contact person in your agency.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION CONTACT PERSON:

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